Durham County Animal Control Advisory Committee Minutes of May 27, 2008 Meeting

Attending: Martha Ann Traylor, Amanda Arrington, Evelyn Nicholson, Jan Paul, Cindy Bailey, Vickie White, Jennifer Brehler, Joyce Arcus, Beth Livingston. There were four other visitors including three A.C. Officers.

Amanda Arrington presiding.

Minutes from the March 25 meeting were reviewed. They were amended to read that Animal Control Officers are "now" equipped with bullet-proof vests instead of "not" equipped. Minutes were approved as amended.

**Animal Control Update:** Cindy is back from medical leave. Numbers for March and April are similar to the numbers from last year, but bites are up. A.C. will soon get new software that will make it possible to prepare more flexible reports. Things are moving ahead on the new building, and it should be finished by January.

**Shelter Update:** Adoptions are down. Jennifer thinks it may be due to the economy. They are seeing more pets turned in because their owners have been evicted. The gala and the walk were very successful fund raisers. The Shelter HVAC system will be replaced tomorrow. Some areas will be painted. The Shelter is housing a goat and a rooster.

**Old Business:** There was a discussion on how best to educate the public on the antichaining ordinance if it is passed. A.C. has some money in its budget for education. APS has an active PR committee. Some suggestions were to put announcements in with water bills, prepare PSAs, have a program on cable access 8, and put up notices in stores where fencing is sold, such as Home Depot and Lowes. The proposed ordinance will be going before the BCC during a work session on 6-2-08. Cindy will talk to County PR to see how they want to handle it.

**New Business:** A bill has been introduced to the State Legislature to provide \$2 million dollars for spay and neutering. Part is for education and part is for reimbursement.

A visitor asked about the legal enforcement power of A.C. Officers. She wants to know how state laws can be changed to give them more power. Cindy will talk to County legal to see if they have any ideas.

The next meeting will be July 29, 2008. Minutes submitted by Vickie White.